

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: January 8, 2021

### **State of the City**

Mayor Jeff Gowing will be presenting the State of the City Address on Monday, January 11, 2021 at the City Council meeting. The City Council meeting begins at 7:00 pm and will be available virtually. Mayor Gowing and Councilors Ervin, Roberts and Stinnett will also be sworn in at the meeting. To attend the meeting visit the City's webpage at [www.cottagegrove.org](http://www.cottagegrove.org) and follow the link to for Agenda and Minutes for information how to attend the virtual meeting.

### **Beeper**

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, January 11, 2021 from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

### **Warming Shelters are Ready**

The Community Sharing Warming Shelter is opening. Community Sharing is finishing up the hiring and training process and the site is prepared for activation. The Warming Shelter will be activated when the evening temperatures drop to 29 degrees or lower, and will open from 7:00 pm to 8:00 am. The Warming Shelters will be available until March 31. To learn more about or to volunteer to help with the Warming Shelter project visit the Community Sharing website at: Learn more about this project on our website at: <https://communitysharing.org/>. We are currently accepting donations and looking for volunteers to help support the functions of this vital service.

### **December 2020 Building Inspection Services Report**

For the month of December the Building Division of the Public Works & Development Department issued 36 permits, 3 for single family homes, and performed 139 inspections in Cottage Grove. In Creswell 17 permits were issued, one for a new single family dwelling, and 51 inspections were performed. In Veneta, 31 permits were issued and 45 inspections were performed. In Cobourg 2 permits were issued and 7 inspections were performed. Staff reviewed and approved 14 plan sets in December and 9 plan sets are in review or on hold for additional information.

## #1, #2 and TP Only

This past week the crew at the Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant were struggling to treat the high flows of wastewater coming to the plant. The crew discovered a screen had become plugged with disposable wipes and other non-biodegradable items restricting the flow of wastewater.

Fortunately Tuesday there was a break in the rain that allowed the crew to clean out the plugged screen. The screen was covered with a blanket of material one foot deep by five feet wide and 10 feet

### Wipes clog pipes

**Avoid sewer backups and protect your pipes!**  
**Dispose of these items in the trash, NOT the toilet.**

- Disinfecting wipes
- Baby wipes
- Towelettes
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues



CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE

long. Fortunately the flows to the plant had receded and the plant was able to process all the wastewater that came through the system. If the flows to the plant had been at peak flows it is possible the plant could have failed and violated the City's DEQ permit.



It is very important that city residents hooked to the City sewer system not flush items down the toilet that don't belong in the sanitary sewer system. The wastewater treatment plant is designed to treat pee, poop, and toilet paper only. Do not flush paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, diapers, baby wipes, fats, grease and or oils even if they are marketed as flushable. By not flushing items that can't be treated it will ensure the treatment plant can operate as designed and meet DEQ requirements. Remember wipes clog pipes.



Cleaned Screen



Plugged Screen

## Lane-Douglas Connector New Service

Umpqua Public Transportation District (UPTD) and South Lane Wheels has partnered to create a new bus service that will operate connecting Eugene to Roseburg. The Lane-Douglas Connector (LDC) is a pilot project funded by the Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation grant. This new service offers public, accessible transportation to veterans and the public in rural communities for better access to healthcare services and shopping opportunities. Everyone is eligible to ride the Lane-Douglas Connector (LDC) starting January 5, 2021. LDC service will operate from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays with stops in Roseburg at the V.A., in Drain at Ray's Food, in Cottage Grove at Walmart and PeaceHealth Medical Center, and in Eugene at the

V.A. The stop in Drain serves as a connection point for passengers of the North Douglas Betterment shuttle. This service is always free for veterans. For an introductory period, service will be free to the general public. LDC is an Umpqua Public Transportation District service operated by South Lane Wheels. For more information or to schedule a ride, call UPTD dispatch toll-free (888) 232-8121.

### **Bloodworks Northwest**

Donations are needed for life-saving blood, your donation could put you in the driver's seat. Donate with [Bloodworks Northwest](#) between December 28, 2020 and March 17, 2021 for a chance to win one of nine pre-selected automobiles. **Appointments are required, call 1-800-398-7888 or visit [schedule.bloodworksnw.org](https://schedule.bloodworksnw.org).** Terms and conditions at [bloodworksnw.org/winacar](https://bloodworksnw.org/winacar).

### **Water Treatment Expansion Project**

As of today, Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, the City's Water Treatment Plant has been operating the new microfiltration Rack #3 successfully along with Racks #1 & 2 without any issues, thus completing the 30-day Operational Test.

Now the project is entering the month-long Substantial Completion phase, in which the Contractor will be working to complete remaining tasks such as touch-up of minor paint scrapes as well as the assembly of Operations and Maintenance manuals that must be provided to plant staff. Engineering Staff expects this project to be completed on February 8, 2021.

The City's ability to provide clean, safe water has now been expanded by 2 million gallons per day, for a total of 6 million gallons per day, which will allow us to meet the combined demands of increasing population and fire protection for many years to come. Our consulting engineer, West Yost Associates, will be working with the Oregon Health Authority, Water Resources Dept., to ensure that the City's new plant expansion is properly authorized and permitted for operation under State guidelines.

### **Recycled Water Storage and Pump Station Project**

The majority of the Recycled Water Storage and Pump Station project has been completed at the City's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), including the massive storage pond. However, the pump manufacturer has been significantly delayed due to COVID, which has negatively impacted the overall project schedule. General Contractor, R&G Excavation, now projects Substantial Completion to occur approximately on March 5, 2021 depending on the subcontractor's ability to deliver the pumps.

Once this project is completed, millions of gallons of treated effluent will be stored in the new storage pond because discharge to the Willamette River is extremely limited during the warm months of the year to protect the environment. Over the next couple of years, the City will begin pumping treated water to the City's golf course, ODOT's I-5 interchange and various City parks.

### **Weekly Update # 12 Southmayd Family Rebuilding Project (by Jason Bush)**

I sent a follow up email to Starfire Lumber Company, the Swanson Group, Hammer Lumber Company, Rosboro Lumber Company and Frank Lumber Company, all of which have graciously agreed to help as much as possible based on several internal factors, which is appreciated. I sent them the Truss Company materials list as well as the remaining framing package.

Our plans have been officially approved and returned to Lane County who immediately processed them for issuance. The total fees are \$6,031.79. This included a credit of \$1,459.81 which was the plan review that was performed by the Clair Company located in Corvallis. Northwest Code Professionals has paid the first \$4,500, leaving a balance of \$1,531.79. A much more manageable amount for us at this time. Thanks to both of these private, third party plan review and inspection agencies! The total fees needed for EPUD to get the power under Butte Road to a new transformer box that will be shared in an easement by the Southmayds and their neighbor to the South is \$912. Emerald People's Utility District has picked up the costs for the riser on pole, EPUD contractor work, transformer, primary wire, materials, labor, mobilization, and overhead for electrical work, easement, and design costs for us! A very warm thank you to Debbie Jenkins and EPUD!

I called Robb Holloway of Holloway and London's "Wake Up Call" on KPNW's 1120 AM station who was very excited to hear of the progress we have made since our initial airing back on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The message I left was during their Holiday break, so he never received the message. He scheduled me for this past Thursday, yesterday, and I think it went okay. I started out like I had a background in auctioneering, so Robb thankfully and professionally reined me in a bit. They, along with KNND 1400 AM, have been instrumental in helping us get the word out there!

We were able to obtain an engineering firm that has a great deal of experience in insurance claims that has tentatively agreed to work with Jayson and Misty's lawyer on providing the necessary structural report of the findings of the final repairs done by the contractor. We have also found a contractor who most likely will be able to provide us with a bid of what it would cost to fully repair and resurrect the existing home. His initial assessment and gut reaction is \$275,000 to possibly \$320,000 in time and materials; however, he is trying to break it down into manageable specifications.

I received confirmation that the International Code Councils "Building Safety Journal" is indeed planning on featuring us in their February issue. Several of the people involved in this project have been contacted by ICC staff, and I think they will be calling me on Friday, today. Also along these lines, Weyerhaeuser's Truss Joist Division's, Territorial Managers Mike Bair and Mike Bagley who were instrumental in providing the TJI's, rim board, and 7/8" Edge Gold Sub-flooring have been forwarding these weekly updates to their internal magazine "Roots" which is distributed worldwide—Same as the Building Safety Journal; so we should be under the spot light soon.

Another very exciting development was when I received a call Thursday morning from Andrew Lourake, a Board Member of both "Operation Second Chance" (OSC) and "Combat Wounded Veterans Challenge" (CWVC), based in Maryland and Florida respectfully. Andrew went on to explain that Jayson Southmayd does qualify for their particular service and made a point of being in a position to set up a FSA-Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement, which allows us the use of their 501(C)3 status for the duration of our project. When folks now donate, they will automatically be issued a tax deductible receipt. He explained that they had held an emergency Board Meeting on Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup>, to discuss our project in order to see what they could do on our behalf. Andrew also informed me that another member of their board would be calling me with additional questions and clarifications.

I subsequently did receive another call from Tim Sanders, Board Member and Treasurer of "Operation Second Chance." Tim will be helping us set up all the administrative portions of the agreement to include the creation of the fund, the collection of donations thereof, and the options of disbursement to contractors and material suppliers. Tim said they were going to have another

board meeting to finalize some of their thoughts on how best to help us and will be getting back to me soon.

Andrew had indicated in our earlier conversation that there are approximately 85,000 organizations that help our military and their families. Not all are the same, by any stretch of the imagination, and we are extremely fortunate as OCS and CWVC are both ranked in the top percentile, with an un-paralleled record of support! They are actually one of the smaller organizations, but specialize in our type of project, which as we have previously discovered don't always fit within the parameters of some of the bigger organizations.

Once we finalize our FSA set-up I will be putting together instructions on how to best run our donations through them. Many thanks to Andrew and Tim, and all the rest of the wonderful folks at Operation Second Chance and Combat Wounded Veterans Challenge! They have a really nice website that provides very impressive Bio's on their staff and Board of Directors that you may find interesting to peruse: Their website can be found at: [www.operationsecondchance.org](http://www.operationsecondchance.org).

*Quote of the Week:*

*"As the new year approaches find inspiration around you, and motivation within you, to be all that you can be.*

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